

Docket No. RSW920010058US1

CLAIMS:

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A method in a data processing system for sharing
2 text in an electronic book, the method comprising:
3 receiving a user input selecting the text from the
4 electronic book to form selected text; and
5 automatically sending the selected text to a
6 designated set of recipients in response to receiving the
7 user input selecting the text.

- 2 2. The method of claim 1 further comprising:
3 displaying a list wherein the designated set of
4 recipients is selected from the list.

- 3 3. The method of claim 1, wherein the selected text is
4 highlighted text.

- 4 4. The method of claim 3, wherein the highlighted text
5 is text in a different color from unselected text, bolded
6 text, and text with a different font type from unselected
7 text.

- 1 5. The method of claim 1 further comprising:
2 storing the highlighted text in a data structure.

- 1 6. The method of claim 5, wherein data structure is a
2 download file.

- 1 7. The method of claim 1, wherein the text is a notated
2 passage of text in the electronic book.

Docket No. RSW920010058US1

1 8. The method of claim 1, wherein the text is a
2 highlighted passage of text in the electronic book.

1 9. The method of claim 1, wherein the sending step
2 sends the highlighted text to the designated set of
3 recipients using a communications link.

1 10. The method of claim 1, wherein the sending step
2 sends the highlighted text to the designated set of
3 recipients in an electronic mail message.

1 11. The method of claim 10, wherein the highlighted text
2 is located in a body of the electronic mail message.

1 12. The method of claim 10, wherein the highlighted text
2 is located in an attachment attached to the electronic
3 mail message.

1 13. A method in a data processing system for sharing
2 highlighted text in an electronic book, the method
3 comprising:

4 receiving a first user input selecting the
5 highlighted text from the electronic book;
6 displaying a list of recipients;
7 receiving a second user input selecting a designated
8 set of recipients from the list of recipients; and
9 sending the highlighted text to the designated set
10 of recipients.

Docket No. RSW920010058US1

1 14. A method in a data processing system for sharing
2 text in an electronic book, the method comprising:

3 receiving selected text from at least one electronic
4 book through a communications link;

5 sorting the selected text using a selection criteria
6 to form sorted text;

7 displaying the sorted text; and

8 responsive to a user input selecting at least a
9 portion of the sorted text being displayed, highlighting
10 portions of the electronic book based on the user input.

1 15. The method of claim 14, wherein retrieving step
2 retrieves the highlighted text for the electronic book
3 from another user using a communications link.

1 16. The method of claim 14, wherein selection criteria
2 is used to sort and group the selected text.

1 17. The method of claim 14, wherein the selection
2 criteria includes at least one of popularity, name of a
3 user originating text within the selected text, and
4 subject matter of portions of text within the selected
5 text.

1 18. The method of claim 14, wherein the selected text
2 includes passages from at least one electronic book.

1 19. The method of claim 14, wherein the selected text
2 includes annotations made by a user.

Docket No. RSW920010058US1

1 20. The method of claim 14, wherein the selection
2 criteria is received from a user input.

1 21. The method of claim 14, wherein the selection
2 criteria is received with the selected text.

1 22. The method of claim 14, wherein the sorted text
2 excludes a portion of the selected text.

1 23. A data processing system for sharing text in an
2 electronic book, the data processing system comprising:
3 receiving means for receiving a user input selecting
4 the text from the electronic book; and
5 sending means for automatically sending the
6 highlighted text to the designated set of recipients in
7 response to receiving the user input selecting the text.

1 24. A data processing system for sharing highlighted
2 text in an electronic book, the method comprising:
3 receiving means for receiving a first user input
4 selecting the highlighted text from the electronic book;
5 displaying means for displaying a list of
6 recipients;
7 receiving means for receiving a second user input
8 selecting a designated set of recipients from the list of
9 recipients; and
10 sending means for sending the highlighted text to
11 the designated set of recipients.

Docket No. RSW920010058US1

1 25. A data processing system for sharing text in an
2 electronic book, a data processing system comprising:
3 receiving means for receiving selected text from at
4 least one electronic book through a communications link;
5 receiving means for receiving selection criteria for
6 the selected text;
7 sorting means for sorting the selected text with
8 respect to the selection criteria to form sorted text;
9 and
10 displaying means for displaying the sorted text.

1 26. A data processing system comprising:
2 a bus system;
3 a communications unit connected to the bus system;
4 a memory connected to the bus system, wherein the
5 memory includes as set of instructions; and
6 a processing unit connected to the bus system,
7 wherein the processing unit executes the set of
8 instructions to receive a user input selecting the text
9 from the electronic book; and automatically send the
10 highlighted text to the designated set of recipients in
11 response to receiving the user input selecting the text.

1 27. A computer program product in a computer readable
2 medium for sharing highlighted text in an electronic
3 book, the computer program product comprising:
4 first instructions for receiving a user input
5 selecting the text from the electronic book; and
6 second instructions for automatically sending the
7 highlighted text to the designated set of recipients in
8 response to receiving the user input selecting the text.